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Transcript for Wednesday, May 29, 2002

KEYES: There's an anti-abortion Web site that posts photos of mothers coming and going from abortion clinics. The operator of the site says he hopes to shame mothers into not having abortions. Critics say this tactic violates the mother's privacy and subjects her to humiliation and possibly to harm. Neal Horsely is the man behind this Web site and another that lists the names and addresses of abortion providers. Neal, welcome to MAKING SENSE.

NEAL HORSELY, ABORTIONCAMS.COM: Good to be here, Alan.

KEYES: Well, now, you probably know, Neal, I don't think that there's a stronger advocate of the pro-life position in America today than I try to be in everything that I do and say. It's why I wear my feet every night on this program. You will see them right here on my collar because I believe this is something that is on my mind, in my heart all the time.

But I want to tell you quite bluntly that I think that what you are doing is wrong, that it's harmful to the pro-life movement, that it represents the kind of tactic that will disgrace and discredit what we are trying to do, and that it involves a tactic that because it disregards what ought to be our own principle of care and concern for life is actually contrary to the truths we're supposed to stand for. And I want to say quite bluntly on behalf of the pro-life movement itself, I wish you'd stop it.

HORSELY: Well, I — I hear what you're saying, and I received that

message from you with — with all the impact that the message deserves, because you're right, Alan. You represent to me a man who's blessed my soul and who's stood in a place that's made me proud to know that there is a man of God that's willing to stand up.

But I think you're wrong right now, because I think you're — you're ignoring the fact that these people are going to kill God's children. And what I'm trying to do is to point out that fact. And you can say that it's wrong to point it out, but a woman who goes and kills her baby is involved in some degree of homicide and she's going to be punished. And we can pretend she's a victim, but the reality is she knows what she's doing. And God knows she knows what she's doing. And we've got to start acting like that's the truth or else we confuse people.

KEYES: Well, see, one of the problems that I have, though, Neal, is I believe that God wants her to love that child, and he wants us to love her. He wants us to understand that the action we take — I believe deeply in the injunction speak the truth with love. And love means that you don't endanger somebody, that you don't approach them in a way that will actually possibly bring harm and grief upon them because, in your self-righteousness, you think you're the instrument of God's punishment. I want to be the instrument of God's truth. I think the question of conscience and punishment ought to be left in his hands, and that what we ought to be trying to do...

HORSELY: Why don't you say that the to the policeman...

KEYES: Let me finish. We ought to be representing the truth that converts the heart. And I've got to tell you, it seems to me that standing there, especially if you're adopting a tactic that might convey to this woman, you don't care about me, you don't care if somebody comes and hurts me, that's not going to open her heart to the truth. That's not going to open her heart so that she'll listen to the plea that God puts in our mouths on behalf of her child. We want her to hear us, not shut her heart against us.

HORSELY: Why don't you say that to the policemen who we hire to go out and interrupt people who are about to commit homicide. The fact is you're treating these people like they're not fixing to kill their babies. No wonder they're confused. No wonder they don't understand that what they're doing is a heinous sin.

KEYES: Quite the contrary. Neal, what I am doing is I am treating this situation as what it is, a situation in which we must not unleash greater evils in what we do to stop the evil we're looking at. And if we go forward in a way that suggests we're declaring some kind of physical

war on people, then the end result will be a worse situation, and we'll be to blame for it. I plead with you again...

HORSELY: You're extrapolating...

KEYES: We've come to the end of our time.

HORSELY: I'm not doing what you say, Alan.

KEYES: Again, please, take it to heart. This is going to hurt.

HORSELY: You're not talking about what I'm doing.

KEYES: This is going to hurt. It's not going to help, and it seems to me that we are under an obligation to do our best to achieve a positive result.

HORSELY: Hey, when are you going to let me talk?

KEYES: I did let you talk. We've run out of time, actually. So both of us are going to have to stop talking.

HORSELY: See, that's it. You came here and ambushed me.

KEYES: Neal, thank you.

HORSELY: That was a lousy thing to do.

KEYES: Thank you, Neal. Just take it to heart, because I'll tell you, I'll speak my mind to whoever. I just spoke it to you, and I hope you'll pray over it.

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